

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 L-03 CG-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 COA-02 EB-11 COME-00 FMC-04

/075 R

DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:JDSTODDART/NAVY/OP-61:CAPT. RAWLINS:ILB

9/7/73 EXT. 21616

APPROVED BY PM/ISO:JDSTODDART

EA/J - MR. CAMPBELL

OSD/GC - MR. ALMOND

ISA/EA AND P - COL. WARFLE

ISA/PP AND NSCA - CAPT. MARTIN

ISA/FMRA - MR. LONG

L/PM - MR. MICHEL

----- 036320

R 071935Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

DOD

CNO

CINCPAC

COMUSJAPAN

CINCPACFLT

COMNAVFORJAPAN

COMSEVENTHFLT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 178124

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, JA, US

SUBJECT: MARITIME TRAFFIC SAFETY LAW (MTSL)

REF: TOKYO 8970

1. WE HAVE REVIEWED JAPANESE NOTE RE MTSL PROVIDED REFTL
AND AGREE THAT IT MEETS OUR MAJOR CONCERNS. IT IS OUR
UNDERSTANDING THAT COMSEVENTHFLT HAS ESTABLISHED INTERNAL
PROCEDURES REGARDING NOTIFICATION BY "HUGE VESSELS" BUT
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THAT THE FIRST TEST CASE HAS NOT YET TAKEN PLACE.

2. THERE IS ONE POSSIBLE SCENARIO INVOLVING HUGE VESSELS WHICH IS NOT COMPLETELY ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE JAPANESE NOTE I.E., A SORTIE (EXIT) FROM A JAPANESE PORT IN ORDER TO MEET AN EMERGENCY COMMITMENT OR FOR TYPHOON EVASION. WHILE WE WOULD EXPECT THESE CIRCUMSTANCES TO OCCUR BUT INFREQUENTLY, WHEN THEY DO, ANY DELAY IN TRANSITING TO HIGH SEAS HAS POTENTIALLY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES. UNDER THE CONDITION POSTULATED, THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE NOTIFICATION GIVEN TO MSA WOULD PROBABLY BE IN THE ORDER OF A FEW HOURS.

3. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO DISCUSS THE FOREGOING WITH FONOFF AND SEEK AGREEMENT PREFERABLY IN WRITING FOR "PRIORITY" TREATMENT OF USN HUGE VESSELS TRANSITING PORT TO HIGH SEAS VIA RESTRICTED CHANNELS UNDER CONDITIONS INVOLVING EMERGENCY OR FOR SAFETY OF VESSEL. RUSH

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Disposition Authority: collinp0
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Drafter: 61:CAPT. RAWLINS:ILB
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30 JUN 2005

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